

STATINTL

C O M M U N I Q U E

of the U.S.-Soviet Meeting on Agriculture Pollution
Washington, D.C., November 23, 1973

A Soviet scientific delegation representing pollution as it relates to agricultural practices and the terms of the joint Soviet-American Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection visited selected locations in the United States from November 12 to November 22. The areas represented were Integrated Pest Management, Animal Wastes and Sewage, and Wind Erosion and Desiccation. The scientific delegation divided into three smaller groups and visited research facilities and locations of applied practices in several different states.

The Soviet representatives were from the All-Union Research Institute for Plant Protection in Leningrad, the All-Union Research Institute of Veterinary Sanitation, the Central Scientific Research Station of Agricultural Uses of Sewage, the All-Union Research Institute Gipronisel Khoz, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Soviet Embassy in the United States.

The Soviet representatives concerned with Integrated Pest Management, Management of Animal Waste and Sewage, and Wind Erosion and Desiccation visited state, federal, and industrial research facilities in Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, California, New York, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas and North Dakota. More than 100 U.S. scientists were involved in these discussions and visits. The Soviet representatives were accompanied by U.S. scientists. The parties expressed great satisfaction with their observations of facilities and discussions between scientists. All participants agreed that the development and application of programs relating to Integrated Pest Management, Management of Animal Wastes and Sewage, and Wind Erosion and Desiccation are of mutual interest and benefit and that such programs should be initiated as soon as possible.

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On November 23, the Soviet scientific delegation met with the U.S. scientific delegation to plan a program to be initiated in early 1974. In the area of Integrated Pest Management, this program includes a symposium concerned with long-term and short-term prediction models of insects, phytopathogens, weed populations and crop losses. This symposium will be held in the United States during the third week in July, 1974. The second item is the exchange of eight scientists during 1974. A third item is the exchange of information in chemical and biological materials for pest management and exchange of museum specimens of pests. A program in the area of Wind Erosion and Desiccation was proposed and will be developed further when a U.S. scientific delegation visits the USSR in May 1974. Recommendations for future activities are attached.

Concerning environmental pollution from animals and sewage, it was agreed by both sides that specific questions, objectives and priorities should be decided after additional exchanges of USSR and USA scientists. The planning of a specific program of cooperation must be carried out after the visit of U.S. scientists to the USSR in 1974 with the aim of becoming acquainted with the status of scientific research on the management of wastes from animal and poultry farms in the USSR. With regard to the planning for agricultural uses of municipal sewage, discussions were held with the USDA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on current research projects and existing land application facilities. It is recommended that questions concerning these problems be considered at the next meeting of the Working Group.

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PROPOSED -- USSR COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FOR INTEGRATED
PEST MANAGEMENT -- 1974

1. A symposium will be held in the United States during the third week of July. This symposium will be entitled "Long-Term and Short-Term Prediction Models of Insects, Phytopathogens and Weed Populations as they relate to Crop Loss." It will include mathematical modelling and telecommunications methods. The participants will be restricted to U.S. and USSR scientists and the number of scientists will be limited to approximately 10 Soviet scientists and 20 U.S. scientists. It is anticipated that the papers presented at the symposium will be published.
2. Following the symposium, the Soviet scientists will visit research facilities and agricultural operations in the U.S. Emphasis will be placed on the application of Integrated Pest Management Programs. More detailed plans will be developed after receiving more specific requests from the Soviet Working Group.
3. There will be an exchange of eight U.S. and eight Soviet Scientists. The period of exchange will be from four weeks to six months. The areas of interest during 1974 will include (a) Biological control (e.g. the use of microbial agents, pheromones, hormonal preparations, and insect predators and the mass rearing of insects) of Insects and Weeds - 3 scientists, (b) The development of disease and insect prediction and loss appraisal models - 2 scientists, (c) The application, safety, production and regulatory activities concerned with the use of pesticides - 2 scientists and (d) The exchange of germplasm which is resistant or tolerant to major pests in the U.S. and USSR - 1 scientist. The scientist exchange program in 1974 will represent entomology, phytopathology, weed science and nematology. The Soviets will send an equal number of scientists to the U.S.
4. The exchange of natural enemies of insects, weeds and phytopathogens.
5. The exchange of current research results, methods of investigation and literature concerning integrated pest management.

Detailed plans for accomplishing the above steps will be initiated immediately upon approval by the two governments. The above programs are not all inclusive and as these plans are developed, other programs will be proposed and initiated upon approval.

Wind Erosion and Desiccation Delegation -- Recommendation for
Future Activities

This group visited research centers and individual farm and ranch units in North Dakota, Kansas, Texas and California.

Observations were concentrated on wind erosion and desiccation research in addition to the practical application of this research for wind erosion control. Included in the field trip was a visit to strip mine areas in North Dakota to observe research and reclamation of strip mine site by vegetation.

The group recommends that the items listed below become a part of this group's exchange of technical information:

1. Wind erosion -- to study in more depth the mechanics of wind erosion, interaction of factors that influence wind erosion, and the practical methods of control based on research data.
2. Water erosion -- water erosion should be included within this project. Lack of consideration of water erosion leaves a wide gap in the exchange of technical information for environmental protection. Water erosion is a serious problem in USSR as it is in USA. (Wind and water erosion sub-phases should be kept separate.)
3. Reclamation of strip mined areas -- This is an important aspect of environmental protection and is closely related to erosion by both wind and water.
4. Conservation legislation -- exchange of information regarding legislation for erosion control will be helpful in analyzing and studying erosion control requirements and treatment. Kinds of legislation, provisions, enactments, implementation, and enforcement are major items of study in this exchange.
5. Land resource conservation planning, particularly at field levels, for control of wind and water erosion needs to be studied.
6. Study of desiccation and its effects on soil moisture, plant growth, and erosion.
7. Exchange should include U.S. scientists who specialize in the practical application of research for controlling wind and water erosion and in land resource planning.
8. There should be a free exchange of land resource conservation methodology and literature.
9. Following the visit of an American delegation to the USSR to study land resource and erosion research, and field application

of such research, and upon approval of above recommendations by the Agricultural Work Group, specific plans and programs will be developed.

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